



**VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR**

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**Chapter Meeting**

**January 5, 2009 – Founders Building, Grapevine. Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**

**Program:** Annual Elections

**Where:** Founder’s Building (by Cotton Belt depot), 701 S. Main St., Grapevine, Texas.

**2010 Chapter Elections & Dues**

**Vote for the Future of Your NTC**

NTC Elections will be held at the January 2010 meeting. The Nominations Committee announces the below slate of candidates for 2010: Nominations will also be take from the floor.

- ◆ President, Wayne Smith
- ◆ Vice President/Programs, Jon Shea
- ◆ Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters,
- ◆ Vice President/Publications, Claude Doane
- ◆ Secretary, Dave Gramm
- ◆ Treasurer, Jim King
- ◆ National Director, Dale Wilken

**Dues are due – Remember 2010 Change!**

Both the Chapter and National appreciate timely payment. NRHS National: \$36 individual + \$5 per extra family member. NTC: \$16 individual + \$2 per family member

- ◆ **Total Dues for NRHS & NTC:** individual \$52 NRHS & NTC. \$7 per extra family member.

**Special News - Help the NTC at Plano Train Show**

**NTC Needs Your Help to Earn Proceeds**

Please either e-mail Russ @russrstuff@aol.com, call 972-625-4012 or SIGN UP at the December Chapter Meetings. Since we have a share at each show, these hours are required to share in any proceeds from the shows.

**DALLAS AREA TRAIN SHOW at PLANO CENTRE on JAN 16-17 2010**, we have the following jobs --

**Saturday 1-16-10**

- 9-10 AM LAYOUT TOUR SUPPORT \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-1 PM TICKET SALES EAST DOOR \_\_\_\_\_
- 1-2 PM TICKET SALES WEST DOOR \_\_\_\_\_
- 4-5 PM TICKET SALES WEDT DOOR \_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday 1-17-10**

- 9-10 AM ASSISTNT SHOW MGR filled by RUSS COVITT \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-1 PM SWITCHING CONTEST \_\_\_\_\_
- 1-2 PM TICKET SALES EAST DOOR \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-4 PM INFO TABLE \_\_\_\_\_

**Special News - Join Annual Dallas Slide Show at Plano Train Show**

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dallas Slide Show, Jan 16, 6 p.m.**

By Skip Waters, VP Trips and Events

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Announcing: The Dallas Area Train Show (Plano, TX) will be Jan. 16 & 17, 2010. It will be held at the Plano Centre. 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Hours 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. More info at: <http://www.dfwtrainshows.com>

**Saturday Night, January 16th, 6:00pm until 10:00pm (maybe longer)**

**The North Texas Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, will host the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dallas Area Slide Show and NRHS Open House at:**

Southfork Hotel, Chinaberry Room, 1600 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074 <http://southforkhotel.com>

**Slide Show Admission is free!** We will pass the hat for those who would like to order pizza for dinner.

This is the show formerly hosted by Jimmy Barlow at Plano's Interurban Museum, and for two years at the Best Western motel, and the last 4 years hosted by the North Texas Chapter, NRHS. We thank Jimmy again (and again) for the opportunity to continue his tradition of fellowship among railfans.

**If YOU would like to be a presenter, please reply directly to me, Skip Waters <[wgcrush@swbell.net](mailto:wgcrush@swbell.net)>, NOT to any email group, NO LATER THAN 12:00 noon CST on Saturday, January 2, 2010.**

If you know the subject of your presentation, please tell me (having a subject is not mandatory). List if you plan to show 1) Slides, 2) Digital photos, or 3) Video tapes or DVD. After all presenters have identified themselves, I'll let them know A.S.A.P. how much time each will have at the show. You can go ahead and start putting your material together now, but keep it adjustable so you can make it fit the time allotted when I announce it after January 3rd. You'll still have about two weeks to finalize after I make that announcement. **One program note: Please limit Videos or DVDs to 15 minutes. Slides will only be limited by the available time divided by the number of presenters.**

Remember, the **DEADLINE for getting your name on the PRESENTATION LIST is 12:00 noon CST on Saturday, January 2nd.** Don't let holiday shopping, etc., make you miss the train. Thanks for your interest! Happy Holidays to all! Please pass this on to anyone that might be interested in this show.

Best regards, Skip Waters, Vice President, Trips & Events, North Texas Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, 214-987-2888 office

## Chapter Directory

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**North Texas Chapter Officers, 2009. (2010 Officers will be added after the January 2010 elections)**

- **President, Wayne Smith**, 940-300-4407.
- **President/Programs, Jon Shea**, 972-480-9054.
- **Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters**, [wgcrush@swbell.net](mailto:wgcrush@swbell.net).
- **Vice President/Publications, Claude Doane**, [claudedoane@hcahealthcare.com](mailto:claudedoane@hcahealthcare.com)
- **Secretary, Dave Gramm**, [dgramm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgramm@sbcglobal.net)
- **Treasurer, Jim King**, [jgking@swbell.net](mailto:jgking@swbell.net)
- **National Director, Dale Wilken**, [d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net).

### **Chapter Business Address**

North Texas Chapter, NRHS,  
P.O. Box 600304  
Dallas, Texas 75360

### **North Texas Zephyr, newsletter of the North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society**

Editor, Valli Hoski  
[nrx.news@yahoo.com](mailto:nrx.news@yahoo.com)

## Chapter News & Views

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### **President's Roundhouse**

*By Wayne Smith, Chapter President*

The last meeting of the year, which also serves as the Chapter's annual holiday party, has come and gone. I counted at least 30 people in attendance that included a nice catered meal with the choice of Chicken Cordon Blue or Beef Stroganoff (or both), vegetables, salad, rolls and apple cobbler. Of course the site of the party was in the historic T&P depot in an area that served as the "Colored" waiting room. Thanks to Jon for setting this up. I presented each of the board members with a framed certificate of appreciation. Claude was not present due to minor eye surgery and Dale was not present due to out of town guests. I also presented a framed certificate of appreciation for Valli, the editor of the North Texas Zephyr, that will be send to her.

Valli was not present due to her Illinois address and her recent eye surgery. It was out-patient, but very serious - vitrectomy, laser repair for a small retinal tear, and insertion of a gas bubble to close a macular hole. She is back at work now (3 weeks after surgery) but still has to take it easy for another month (no flying until the bubble is gone.) Let's keep Claude and Valli in our thoughts and prayers.

The board members of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS did an outstanding job this year and we are very appreciative of them, as well as the editor of our newsletter which we very much appreciate.. The event also included a tour of the T&P depot and a tour of the loft owned by the caterers. The evening ended with a multi-media show by Randy Nelson. A good time was had by all, as we got to visit with old friends and new acquaintances. Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year. Keep on Railroad'n!

### **Did You Know?**

*By Wayne Smith*

1. The names of the four railroads found on a standard Monopoly board include B&O Railroad, Pennsylvania Railroad, Reading Railroad and Short Line Railroad. The purchase price for each of the railroads in Monopoly is \$200.00 each.
2. A "Sherman necktie" is the name given to a piece of rail, which was heated over a fire then twisted around a tree making it unusable. The Union troops under General William T. Sherman used this approach to destroy miles of southern railroad track during the famed "March to the Sea" in 1864.
3. During the early years of the B&O, alternate modes of motive power were tested including a sail car that required strong winds, and a horse-powered treadmill car. The railroad did not adopt either experiment as regular motive power.
4. Charles Dickens, during a tour of America, called the locomotive a "mad dragon."

### **2009 Chapter Holiday Dinner**

*By Jon Shea, VP Programs*

The NTC-NRHS had a very successful Christmas dinner at the Texas and Pacific Railroad Station in downtown Fort Worth. Thirty-four members and guests braved freezing weather to have a good catered dinner in the old African-American waiting room which has been beautifully restored as a community center for the condo complex. Our gracious hosts were Nathan and Joanne Swaner who are restoring the old restaurant at the station as the T&P Tavern and Grill. Joanne took us on a tour of one of the condos at the top floor of the station building, where I saw a good view of the Santa Fe sign over by the Amtrak Station. Then she showed us the old newsstand area, restaurant and kitchen area, which will comprise their restaurant. Meanwhile Nathan served as our bartender to give us some holiday cheer. For those still awake, and staying Randy Nelson was kind enough to give a slide show. Special thanks are due to The Ritzz Catering for our dinner and Nathan and Joanne for their hosting. I feel certain we will be using their services again in the future. For further information on the T&P Tavern and Grill go to: <http://tptavern.tripod.com>.

If anybody hasn't paid for the dinner yet please send a check for \$12.00 to Jim King at the chapter address.



## **News from the Heart of the Midwest**

*By Valli Hoski, Editor*

Very fond and best regards to the Chapter and National in 2010. The years bring changes to the hobby, to the membership, but always the enthusiasm and interest in rail history and railroading warm our hearts. May 2010 be a safe year, full of contentment, good health, hope and good spirits for all.

My sincerest thanks to Claude and Jim for handling the December newsletter; a fine job all around with getting timely and accurate news out for the T&P dinner. Harry and I are happy to report that the eye recovery is going well, thanks to the hopes and prayers of family and friends, to a highly skilled and compassionate retinal specialist team, and to the miraculous wonder of the heavenly made human body. Heavenly interventions and an almighty hand have blessed me with sight recovery, with an outstanding, compassionate, caring husband and faithful friends. Thanks to my NTC buddies who have taken time to cheer Harry and I during this difficult time, and to all those who kept us in their thoughts and prayers.

### **Chapter Meeting Minutes, December 2, 2009**

**NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MEETING MINUTES AND NOTES, DATE: Dec. 2, 2009.**

*Minutes submitted by Dave Gramm, NTC Secretary.*

The chapter held its annual Holiday Dinner on December 2, 2009 at the T&P Station, Ft. Worth, Texas. The party was held in the refurbished African-American waiting room and catered by the T&P Tavern and Grill. There were 34 persons in attendance making this one of our most attended holiday parties in recent years.

**President Wayne Smith** presented plaques to this year's board members in attendance for their services over the past year. Receiving plaques were VP – Programs Jon Shea, VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters, Treasurer Jim King & Secretary Dave Gramm. Not in attendance and due to receive plaques in the future were VP- Publications Claude Doane and Chapter National Director Dale Wilken. Wayne also announced to the attendees that Claude had recently been elected to serve as a Regional Vice President.

**Jon Shea** commented that the chapter members needed to thank Wayne for his leadership over the past year and everyone in attendance applauded Wayne in thanks.

**Our dinner hosts were Nathan Weber & Joanne Swaner**, owners of the T&P Tavern and Grill. After dinner, Joanne gave a short history of the T&P Station. It was built in 1931 and used by the T&P until 1964 when the T&P discontinued passenger service. Legend has it that the clock on the concourse was stopped at 10:40, the departing time of the last outbound train in 1964. They also took the group on a tour of the original restaurant area, which is currently under restoration by Nathan, the original newsstand & tobacco shop which Nathan completed restoration of already, and their 12th story penthouse which has a commanding view of the city of Fort Worth. After completion of the tour, the group was entertained by a digital slide show presented by Randy Nelson.

**Next meeting will be held at the Grapevine Founder's Building on January 5, 2010** with the program to be the annual election of chapter officers.

### **Chapter Meeting Minutes, November 3, 2009**

**NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MEETING MINUTES AND NOTES, DATE: Nov. 3, 2009.**

*Minutes submitted by Dave Gramm, NTC Secretary. [Editor's note: corrections/additions made as submitted by Chapter President.]*

**President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.** There were 16 members present. Wayne reported on a survey included in the latest edition of the Cowcatcher entitled the 'Cowcatcher 1st Gold Rail Awards'. Our '24 Hours @ Saginaw' program is up for consideration in the 'Best Rail Special Event', and the Saginaw Depot is a candidate for 'Best Railfanning Spot'. Only subscribers to the Cowcatcher were given a ballot to vote with but Wayne requested all chapter members who are subscribers to vote for our event. Wayne also passed out the work schedule for the upcoming train shows. We are covered for the Ft. Worth show and only have 6-7 hours to work at the Plano show.

Wayne announced to the club members that chapter member Claude Doane has been formally named as the Regional Vice President. Claude then gave a report on national headquarters news:

1. Headquarters has investments that are not currently in income producing accounts. He has been assigned to a committee to revamp the investments.
2. The 2009 convention lost money due to the cost of the inbound & outbound train movements.
3. To balance the 2010 budget, expenses have been cut about \$75,000, including the \$42,000 cost of the annual activities issue which translates into no activities issue starting in 2010.
4. The governance issue will be a major discussion item at the January meeting and Spring Board meeting.
5. Nevada Northern Rail Camp has been cancelled for the coming year. The possibility of bringing the rail camp to the TX State Railroad is being investigated.

Wayne remarked that everyone should have received their dues renewal form by now as they were mailed last week. Treasurer Jim King will manually invoice those members who hold dual membership and /or local only membership and he requested all members to submit their dues payment before the end of the year.

Claude reported that newsletter editor Valli Hoski had eye surgery last Friday and is doing well in recovery mode. The December newsletter edition will be a minimal edition as Claude will put it together during Valli's recovery.

VP Programs Jon Shea reported on the December Christmas dinner plans. Currently set for Tuesday, December 1 at 7:30pm at the T & P Grille in the T&P building in Ft. Worth. The catered meal will cost \$12/person and be served buffet style. A tour of the restaurant and other areas is included. Skip Waters reported Randy Nelson will present a program during the event.

January's meeting will be held at the Grapevine Founder's Building with the main program to be the annual Chapter Officer elections. Wayne reported that chapter member Russ Covitt is the Nominations chair and anyone wishing to run for a chapter office should contact Russ .

VP Special Events Skip Waters reported the 5th annual slide show will be held on Saturday, January 16 from 6-10pm at the Southfork Hotel after the Plano Train Show. Pizza will be ordered for the attendees.

TX State Railroad #300 has been restored and will be running during the weekend, Nov 7-8. The KCS Holiday Express will be in Wylie this year on Sunday, Nov 29 @ 4pm on the Marable Street siding, same place as last year. The George Bush Library will host its 4th Annual Railroad program on Saturday, November 21. Cost is \$15/person which includes lunch. The program starts at 9:30am and continues through 3:00pm with four speakers planned for.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm with the annual members auction following.

**Press time: 12/21/09, 9pm. File: NTx Newsletter 2010-01 v3.doc**

## **North Texas Chapter History**

Founded and chartered in 1996, the **North Texas Chapter** is one of the newest chapters of the **National Railway Historical Society\***. The chapter is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) educational organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Texas. Emphasis of the chapter is activity, history, and enjoyment of railroading past and present. **Meetings are held 7:30-10:00 PM, first Tuesday of each month**, usually (but not always) at the Grapevine Tourist & Visitor Information Center at Main St. and the FWWR railroad tracks. **Visitors and newcomers are welcome.** For 2010 on, regular membership is \$52 a year (\$38 national dues + \$16 chapter dues). Additional family members are \$7 per individual. Regular membership includes a) subscription to the NRHS Bulletin (5 issues/year) and our monthly chapter newsletter, the North Texas Zephyr. Chapter mailing address: **North Texas Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 600304, Dallas, Texas 75360.** \*Reminder, effective Feb. 2008, NRHS has a new mailing address: National Railway Historical Society, 100 N 20th Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1443.

## **North Texas Calendar**

<b>Tues. Jan. 5, 2010</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Founder’s Building</b> (by Cotton Belt depot), 701 S. Main St., <b>Grapevine, Texas.</b> Program: Annual Members’ Election.
<b>Sat. Jan.16, 2009</b>	<b>Annual Dallas Area Slide Show, 6:00 p.m.-10 p.m.</b> Comes after the Dallas Area Train Show (in Plano), and continue the fun! To add your favorite slides and stories to the program, please contact Skip Waters (wgcrush@swbell.net).
<b>Sat. Jan. 16 – Sun. Jan. 17, 2-010</b>	<b>Dallas Area Train Show , Plano Centre, 2000 E Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX 75074</b> More information at <a href="http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/">http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/</a>

**North Texas Chapter, NRHS,**  
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